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To: <SenGVanWoerkom@senate.michigan.gov>,
<SenPBirkholz@senate.michigan.gov>...
Date: 6/13/2007 1:25 PM
Subject: CAFO bill

CC: <gayle.miller@sierraclub.org>, "Patterson, Daniel" <patte2dj@cmich.edu>,...
Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and Senators,

I am a long time resident of Gratiot County and feel strongly that the current bills (Senate Bills 501-504 - CAFO's) being considered are NOT in the best interest of the citizens of Gratiot County or Michigan. I urge you to vote these bills down and to consider stricter legislation that will protect the people of Michigan (your districts) rather than making it easier for the bad farms to continue violating our environment and our people. The legislation before you will allow these factory farms to further violate the laws and destroy Michigan's natural resources and systems and the quality of life of people living and working in and around these farms.

Two years ago I visited the state capitol to discuss this issue with my-then state representative. I told him that I was a cyclist and that I commuted to work via my bike (from Ithaca to Mt. Pleasant) several days a week and that the factory farm (CAFO) located at Forest Hill was so filthy and emitted such a dangerous stench, that it was actually difficult to see and breathe as I cycled through that area. Further, I ride annually with the Dalmac (cycling event from Lansing to Mackinac) and told him that the other 1500 or so cyclists laugh about Gratiot County being the filthiest county in the state. Gratiot County has very few events that bring 1500+ people into the area. My representatives comment was simply to change the route. That was, and still is, an unacceptable response to my concern. So, two years later, I am still concerned about the quality of our air and water in Gratiot County and I strongly encourage you to listen to the people and vote against these bills - because it is the right thing to do and because it is in the best interest of the people, the economy of Gratiot County, and the future of the state of Michigan.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and hope to hear positive news on Thursday after the vote.

Sincerely,

Alison Miller

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